- 1. Is there a noise problem? Yes
- a. If so, what are the expected major sources of noise that are of concern? Solar inverters and smart meters
- b. What services are being most impacted by a rising spectrum noise floor? Health, as this waveform and frequency is known to effect the ion channels of the cell. IEEE Trans Biomed Eng. 2006 Dec: 53(12 Pt 1):2445-54.

Mechanism of nerve conduction block induced by high-frequency biphasic electrical currents.

Zhang X1, Roppolo JR, de Groat WC, Tai C.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17153201

- c. If incidental radiators are a concern, what sorts of government, industry, and civil society efforts might be appropriate to ameliorate the noise they produce? Install filters and get rid of smart meters
- 2. Where does the problem exist? Everywhere Silver Spring Networks circuit boards are used
- a. Spectrally
- i. What frequency bands are of the most interest? 10 kHz
- b. Spatially
- i. Indoors vs outdoors? Around electric fields and in the earth
- ii. Cities vs rural settings? Doesn't matter
- iii. How close in proximity to incidental radiators or other noise sources?
- iv. How can natural propagation effects be accounted for in a noise study?
- c. Temporally
- i. Night versus day? Day
- ii. Seasonally? No
- 3. Is there quantitative evidence of the overall increase in the total integrated noise floor across various segments of the radio frequency spectrum?
- a. At what levels does the noise floor cause harmful interference to particular radio services?
- b. What RF environment data from the past 20 years is available, showing the contribution of the major sources of noise?
- c. Please provide references to scholarly articles or other sources of spectrum noise measurements.
- 4. How should a noise study be performed? With a Fluke Scopemeter
- a. What should be the focus of the noise study?
- b. How should it be funded?
- c. What methods should be used? Connect to a 120 VAC receptacle using an oscilloscope, or connect to two grounds rods 50 feet apart.
- d. How should noise be measured? Oscilloscope
- i. What is the optimal instrumentation that should be used? Battery operated and isolated scope with a Graham Ubiquitous filter
- ii. What measurement parameters should be used for that instrumentation?
- iii. At what spatial and temporal scales should noise be measured?
- iv. Should the monitoring instrumentation be capable of determining the directions
- of the noise sources? No If so, how would those data be used?
- v. Is there an optimal height above ground for measurements?
- e. What measurement accuracy is needed?

3

- i. What are the statistical requirements for sufficient data? Would these requirements vary based on spectral, spatial and temporal factors?
- ii. Can measurements from uncalibrated, or minimally calibrated, devices be combined?
- iii. Is it possible to "crowd source" a noise study?
- f. Would receiver noise measurements commonly logged by certain users (e.g. radio astronomers, cellular, and broadcast auxiliary licensees) be available and useful for noise floor studies?
- g. How much data must be collected to reach a conclusion? 30 days worth, with emphasis on measurements just before sunset
- h. How can noise be distinguished from signals? Testing a known polluter (smart meter)
- i. Can noise be characterized and its source identified? Yes
- ii. Is there a threshold level, below which measurements should be ignored? No, because it's riding on the 60 cycle waveform.